

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 04108 191550Z
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 AID-01 SSO-00
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O P 191511Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1794
INFO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY
AMCONSUL DURBAN PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OREP, SF (MCGUIRE, ANDREW)
SUBJECT: VISIT OF CONGRESSMAN MCGUIRE

REF: (A) STATE 181857, (B) PRETORIA 4077 (NOTAL)

1. APPRECIATE THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY REF (A), WHICH WAS RECEIVED AFTER THE DISPATCH OF REF (B). IT WOULD APPEAR FROM REF (A) THAT CONGRESSMAN MCGUIRE HAD ALREADY BEGUN TO ARRANGE HIS PROGRAM HERE THROUGH OTHER CONTACTS. WE HAVE HAD SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH PROFESSOR ROTBERG AND HE HAS NOT REPEAT NOT INDICATED THAT HE HAS MADE ANY SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR MCGUIRE, BUT PASSED ON WHAT HE SAID WERE MCGUIRE'S DESIRES FOR APPOINTMENTS. SHUN CHETTY, HOWEVER, CAME TO SEE US ON JULY 19 AND SAID HE WAS TOLD BY THE LAWYERS COMMITTEE TO BLOCK IN A PROGRAM FOR MCGUIRE THE WEEKEND OF JULY 22-23. FROM REF (A) AND TALKS WITH CHETTY, IT APPEARS THE PREFERRED FOCUS OF MCGUIRE'S VISIT IS DETAINEES AND BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS LEADERS. WITH THE SOMEWHAT CONFLICTING PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY ROTBERG AND CHETTY, WE BELIEVE THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD RECONFIRM MCGUIRE'S WISHES AND PREFERRED SCHEDULE.

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2. THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT WE CANNOT MELD THE DIFFERENT PROPOSALS INTO A SCHEDULE. CHETTY PREFERS TO TAKE SATURDAY, JULY 22, FOR ATTEMPTS TO SEE DETAINEES AND OTHERS. HE WOULD LIKE TO PROGRAM THE WHOLE DAY. DUE TO SHORT LEAD TIME, HOWEVER, WE HAVE ALREADY SET UP SATURDAY PROGRAM WITH MEETING WITH BUSINESS LEADERS IN THE MORNING AND THE SOWETO LUNCHEON AS DESCRIBED REF (B). WE WOULD STRONGLY PREFER TO HOLD WITH THIS SCHEDULE;

UNFORTUNATELY, WE FIND WE CANNOT REARRANGE IT FOR SUNDAY, JULY 23. WE COULD THEN WORK IN SOME OF CHETTY'S ARRANGEMENTS IN THE AFTERNOON, ENDING POSSIBLY WITH THE PROPOSED DINNER AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, OR SOMETHING AT CHETTY'S HOME. THIS WOULD NOT GIVE US TIME FOR SEEING DETAINEES ON SATURDAY, THE DAY CHETTY FEELS WOULD BE THE EASIEST FOR THAT PURPOSE. BUT WE COULD MAKE AN EFFORT TO ARRANGE THIS ON SUNDAY, A POSSIBILITY. THE DECISION RESTS WITH THE CONGRESSMAN AND DEPENDS ON HIS OWN PRIORITIES. BUT WE WOULD RE-EMPHASIZE THAT MOVING OUR INITIAL SATURDAY SCHEDULE TO SUNDAY IS NOT FEASIBLE.

3. CHETTY ALSO TOLD US THAT HE UNDERSTOOD MCGUIRE WAS STAYING WITH HIM DURING THE WEEKEND. CAN THE DEPARTMENT CONFIRM THIS?

4. REF (A) SUGGESTS MEETING SEVERAL DETAINEES (CHETTY HAS GIVEN US FURTHER NAMES) AND VISITING THE SECURITY POLICE INSTALLATIONS IN PORT ELIZABETH. CHETTY FEELS THAT THE SAG MAY GRANT THIS PERMISSION, ALTHOUGH WE ARE SOMEWHAT SKEPTICAL THAT THEY WOULD BE SO FORTHCOMING. IN ANY CASE, THE APPROVAL WILL HAVE TO COME PERSONALLY FROM JUSTICE MINISTER KRUGER; IN THE TIME FRAME IT WILL PROBABLY BE NECESSARY FOR US TO APPROACH HIM DIRECTLY ON THE MATTER. AT THE SAME TIME, WE WILL HAVE TO SEEK AN EXEMPTION FOR WINNIE MANDELA TO SEE MCGUIRE AS HE NOW PROPOSES TO ARRIVE IN BRANDFORT AFTER THE HOURS OF HER HOUSE RESTRICTION, WHICH BEGINS AT 1400 HOURS ON SATURDAYS.
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5. WE HAVE ALSO HAD A REQUEST FOR A PRESS INTERVIEW AND ANTICIPATE OTHERS. WILL THE CONGRESSMAN BE SEEING THE PRESS AND, IF SO, ON A SELECTIVE INDIVIDUAL BASIS OR SHOULD A PRESS CONFERENCE BE PLANNED?
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